

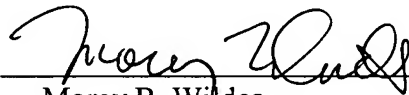
REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are in this application. After claim amendments herein, claims 1-18 will be pending in this application.

This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP2003/011318. By virtue of this amendment, changes have been submitted in order to conform the application to proper U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice. No new matter has been added to the text of the international application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims presented are patentable. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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